

Committee Meetings

“MEDICAID PRESCRIPTION DRUG REIMBURSEMENT: WHY THE GOVERNMENT PAYS TOO MUCH”

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Medicaid Prescription Drug Reimbursement: Why the Government Pays too Much.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services: Dennis Smith, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations; and George Reeb, Assistant Inspector, Audits; the following officials of the State of Texas: David J. Balland, Associate Commissioner, Medicaid and CHIP, Health and Human Services Commission; and Patrick O’Connell, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Medicaid Fraud Section, Office of the Attorney General; Paul Reinhart, Medicaid Director, State of Michigan; and public witnesses.

UKRAINE’S ELECTION: NEXT STEPS

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Ukraine’s Election: Next Steps. Testimony was heard from Senator Lugar; Representative Kaptur; and John F. Tefft, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State.

CONFERENCE REPORT—NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE REFORM ACT OF 2004

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report to accompany S. 2845, National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hoekstra and Representative Harmon.

Joint Meetings

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 4548, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System.

NEW PRIVATE LAWS

(For last listing of Private Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1072)

S. 2042, for the relief of Rocco A. Trecosta of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Private Law 108–5).

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1116)

H.R. 1047, to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–429)

H.R. 1630, to revise the boundary of the Petrified Forest National Park in the State of Arizona. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–430)

H.R. 2912, to reaffirm the inherent sovereign rights of the Osage Tribe to determine its membership and form of government. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–431)

H.J. Res. 110, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–432)

H.J. Res. 111, appointing the day for convening of the first session of the One Hundred Ninth Congress. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–433)

H.J. Res. 115, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2005. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–434)

S. 150, to make permanent the moratorium on taxes on Internet access and multiple and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce imposed by the Internet Tax Freedom Act. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–435)

S. 434, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain parcels of National Forest System land in the State of Idaho and use the proceeds derived from the sale or exchange for National Forest System. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–436)

S. 1146, to implement the recommendations of the Garrison Unit Joint Tribal Advisory Committee by providing authorization for the construction of a rural health care facility on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–437)

S. 1241, to establish the Kate Mullany National Historic Site in the State of New York. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–438)

S. 1727, to authorize additional appropriations for the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978. Signed on December 3, 2004. (Public Law 108–439)